AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A computerized medical diagnosis management system allowing a central operator to monitor and control a predetermined number of diagnosis instruments in real time, comprising:

a central computer system comprising a data processor;

~~at least one data interface~~a predetermined number of data interfaces, each operatively coupled to the data processor and configured to receive data from one of the diagnosis instruments ~~located at remote patient sites~~ in real time, wherein each diagnosis instrument is located at a different remote patient site and configured for displaying measurement data and/or diagnosis data on a local monitor allowing a local operator to monitor the diagnosis instrument at a patient site during a patient's examination;

a display unit operatively coupled to the data processor and configured to represent each local monitor simultaneously, wherein the display unit is further configured to display the measurement data and/or diagnosis data in the same way as the respective local monitor, wherein a number of represented local monitors corresponds to the predetermined number of diagnosis instruments, and wherein the simultaneous representations of local monitors on the display unit allow the central operator to monitor and control the diagnosis instruments during patient examinations; and

an input unit operatively coupled to the data processor and configured to allow the central operator to select a diagnosis instrument from the diagnosis instruments represented on the display unit, and to generate a control code for the selected diagnosis instrument, when a control instruction for actively controlling the selected diagnosis instrument is entered by the central operator through the input unit to enable active intervention in real time by the central

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operator during a patient's examination, wherein the data interface automatically forwards the control code to the selected diagnosis instrument.

2. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data interface is one of

two or more hardware modules each operatively coupled via a separate data communications line to a diagnostic instrument, and

a software module configured to access the diagnostic instruments based on addressing information for each diagnostic instrument.

3. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data interface is configured as an Internet interface.

4. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the system is configured to receive data from at least two diagnosis instruments that transmit data in dissimilar formats.

5. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the system is configured to receive data from a diagnosis instrument mounted on a mobile platform.

6. (cancelled)

7. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the system is configured to replicate an operating console of the diagnosis instrument in response to the control instruction.

8. (cancelled)

9. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an acoustic input device configured to pick up a voice signal spoken at the site of the input unit of the diagnosis management system, wherein the data processor sends the voice signal to a selected medical diagnosis instrument.

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10. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the system is configured to receive image data from at least one camera installed at the site of one of the diagnosis instruments, and wherein the data interface is configured for recording the image data.

11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A computerized method for managing a predetermined number of medical diagnosis instruments located at remote patient sites in real time, comprising:

receiving at a central computer system via a plurality of data interfaces measurement data and/or diagnosis data from the remotely located diagnosis instruments in real time, wherein each data interface is assigned to one of the diagnosis instruments, and wherein each diagnosis instrument is located at a different remote patient site and configured for displaying measurement data and/or diagnosis data on a local monitor allowing a local operator to monitor the diagnosis instrument at a patient site during a patient's examination;

simultaneously displaying on a display unit operatively coupled to a data processor of the central computer system a number of representations of the local monitors to allow the central operator to monitor and control the remotely located diagnosis instruments in real time during patient examinations, wherein the number of represented local monitors corresponds to the predetermined number of diagnosis instruments, and wherein the display unit displays the measurement data and/or diagnosis data in the same way as the respective local monitor;

selecting a diagnosis instrument from the diagnosis instruments represented on the display unit for active control by the central operator when the central operator enters an input into the data processor;

converting the entered input into a control code for the selected diagnosis instrument to enable active intervention by the central operator in real time during a patient's examination;

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forwarding the control code in real time from the central computer system to the selected diagnosis instrument; and

controlling the diagnosis instrument in real time via user instructions delivered at an input unit operatively coupled to the central computer system.

13. (previously presented) The computerized method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising receiving data in dissimilar formats from at least two diagnosis instruments and processing the dissimilar format data for display in a standardized format.

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) The computerized method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising receiving an operator voice signal and sending the voice signal to the site of the selected medical diagnosis instrument.

17. (previously presented) The computerized method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising the central computer system receiving stored data saved earlier locally at one of the medical diagnosis instruments and presenting the data on the display unit.

18. (previously presented) The computerized method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising the central computer system receiving and recording image data from at least one camera located at a diagnosis instrument site.

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

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